

Applicants: Claudine S. Ashvar, et al.
Serial No.: Not Yet Known
Filed : Herewith
Page 3

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants would like to direct the Examiner's attention to the following documents which are listed on Form PTO-1449 (**Exhibit A**) and are also listed below.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Thus, this Information Disclosure Statement should be entered and considered.

This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/875,713, filed June 6, 2001, now allowed, which claimed priority of U.S. Serial No. 60/210,592, filed June 9, 2000.

Copies of the documents listed below as items 1-3 have previously been submitted to, and item 4 has been cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in connection with U.S. Serial No. 09/875,713 upon which the subject application relies from an earlier filing date pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §120. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the previously submitted and cited documents are not provided. Item 5 below discloses U.S. Serial No. 09/875,713, now allowed, of which the current application is a continuation.

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,663,337, issued September 2, 1997, Pendergast et al.;
2. U.S. Patent No. 4,753,788, issued June 28, 1988, Gamble;
3. U.S. Patent No. 4,963,367, issued October 16, 1990, Ecanow;
4. U.S. Patent No. 4,755,388, issued July 5, 1988, Heath et al.;

Applicants: Claudine S. Ashvar, et al.
Serial No.: Not Yet Known
Filed : Herewith
Page 4

5. U.S. Serial No. 09/875,713, filed June 6, 2001, Ashvar et al. including a copy of the set of claims as allowed (**Exhibit B**).

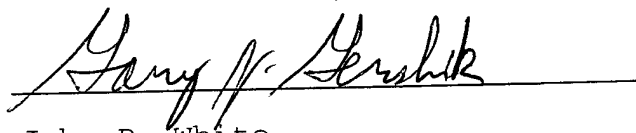
Applicants request that the Examiner review the references and make them of record in the subject application.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

Applicants: Claudine S. Ashvar, et al.
Serial No.: Not Yet Known
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Page 5

No fee, other than the enclosed \$750.00 application filing fee, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gary J. Gershik", is written over a horizontal line.

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Form PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. 66600-AA JPW/GJG/ACK		Serial No. Not Yet Known							
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicants Claudine S. Ashvar et al.									
				Filing Date		Group 1615							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS													
Examiner Initial		Document Number						Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate	
		5	6	6	3	3	3	7	9/2/1997	Pendergast <i>et al.</i>			
		4	7	5	3	7	8	8	6/28/1988	Gamble			
		4	9	6	3	3	6	7	10/16/1990	Ecanow			
		4	7	5	5	3	8	8	7/5/1988	Heath <i>et al.</i>			
		09	8	7	5	7	1	3	6/6/2001	Ashvar <i>et al.</i> (Exhibit B)			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS													
		Document Number						Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
												Yes	No
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)													
EXAMINER									DATE CONSIDERED				
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.													